Postmark Atlanta
Atlanta Stamp Collector's Club

Affiliate club **#0357-031583**
April 2022 Newsletter

In an attempt to have in person meetings and hear the auctioneer we are pleased to be able to move back to our Fulton County Library meeting location for some First Monday meetings. These meetings will have to start at 6:00 because the library has a firm close at 8:00 on Monday. We will discuss at the April 4 meeting whether we want to continue to use Manuel's for the dates the library is not available due to being an early voting location.

We will continue our Third MONDAY as a "virtual" Atlanta Stamp Collector's Club meeting hosted by member Lloyd Nutter. Lloyd sends out a Zoom invitation a couple days before the meeting. If you do not get an invitation for the meetings, please contact Lloyd to make sure he adds you to his list. Emailing him: trains56@charter.net. Also, if you need to test how Zoom works, Lloyd will be glad to give you a test.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 2, 2022 Stamp Trading at home of Don Laberteaux, 5008 Brandlwood Ct., Lilburn, GA from 9 – 11 a.m. Coffee, talking and stamps. Call Don at 770-381-7114 for details.

April 4, 2022 Atlanta Stamp Collector's Club meeting and auction at Atlanta Library branch at 980 Ponce de Leon. This is the corner of Ponce de Leon and Frederica and there is a Marta bus stop at that corner. Meeting starts at 6:00.

April 8 – 9, 2022 GULFPEX 2022. St. Martin Community Center, 15004 La Moyne Blvd, Biloxi, Mississippi, sponsored by Gulf Coast Stamp Club www.gulfcoaststampclub.org

April 18, 2022 Atlanta Stamp Collector's Club ZOOM meeting at 7:00 with presentation by Douglas Mattox. His topic is "Dutch Airmail to the East Indies and the Great Air Races of 1933 and 1934"

April 23, 2022 Roapex 2022 Spring Show. Big Lick Stamp Club, Thrasher Memorial United Methodist Church, 707 E Washington Ave. Vinton, Virginia http://biglickstampclub.org/

April 29 – 30, 2022 GWINPEX 2022 Spring Stamp Show, Mountain Park United Methodist Church Family Life Center, 1405 Rockbridge Rd. Stone Mountain, GA 30087 Details below.

May 2, 2022 Meeting at 7:00 – discussion April 2 to decide whether Zoom or at Manuel's

May 16, 2022 Atlanta Stamp Collector's Club ZOOM meeting at 7:00.

June 3 – 5, 2022 NAPEX, National Philatelic Exhibitions of Washington DC, McLean Hilton at Tyson's Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Dr. McLean, Virginia, http://www.napex.org

June 6, 2022 Joint Atlanta Clubs meeting at library at 6:00 with pizza and desserts

August 25 – 28, 2022 Great American Stamp Show. SAFE Credit Union Convention Center, 1400 J St. Sacramento, California http://www.stamps.org/GASS

Be sure to confirm the COVID protocols for upcoming shows.

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GwinnPex 2022 Spring Stamp Show

Location: Mountain Park United Methodist Church Family Life Center located at 1405 Rockbridge Rd. Stone Mountain, Ga. 30087

Times: Show hours Friday April 29th and Saturday April 30th 10 - 5

Dealer set up Friday April 29th 8-10.

Over 25 tables sold with at least 6 full time dealers, a Boy Scout Representative, a youth table with free stamps for anyone 18 or under, and several part time collectors/dealers.

Concession stand onsite with homemade food for both breakfast and lunch served at very fair prices. All profits from concession sales go back to the church.

Free parking and admission

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BUILDING VICTORIAN POST OFFICES

THE CONTINUING ADVENTURES OF SIR HENRY TANNER

By Colin Clark

Architecture starts when you carefully put two bricks together. There it begins.

– **Ludwig Mies van der Rohe** (1886 – 1969)

Sir Henry Tanner designed and built both Edwardian and Victorian post offices, and his Edwardian adventures were described in a previous article (**Sunderland Post Office**). It is his Victorian adventures that are chronicled here.

The Victorian Era:

Once upon a time, the Victorians had a tradition of building remarkable post office buildings, which were not just utilitarian, but also beautiful.

During the Victorian era, the British Post Office was **not** responsible for the design and construction of its own buildings. Rather, it was the architects working within the **Office of Works** (1851 – 1940), and then subsequent government ministries who carried out this work.[1] The post office architects were civil servants, so often very little is known about them. However thanks to surviving archive documentation, there is now some idea of who these architects were.

One such architect was **Sir Henry Tanner** (**1849 – 1935**). He was a **F**ellow of the **R**oyal **I**nstitute of **B**ritish **A**rchitects (**F.R.I.B.A.**).

In 1898, he took over as the Principal Surveyor of the London Office of Works. He utilized a variety of architectural styles for various projects, but his normal style was that of French Renaissance. One example of his post office architectural design work was in the city of **North Shields** (the details are described below).

Figure 1. Sir Henry Tanner

The **Office of Works** was given its separate identity in **1851**, derived from its precursor incarnation as the **Office of Woods, Forests, Land Revenues, Works and Buildings**. This refocusing of the department was legislated in order to bring the **Office of Works** under the direct control of the British Parliament.

OFFICE OF WORKS HISTORY

Post Office Case Study: NORTH SHIELDS

This post office case study is of **North Shields**.

LOCATION:

North Shields is located on the coastline of the North East of England, on the River Tyne, at **Tynemouth.**

Figure 2: **Map of North Shields** (circa: **1888**).[2]

The street map below indicates the street location of the **G**eneral **P**ost **O**ffice: **G.P.O.** (**63 Saville Street**), circled in **BLUE**:

Figure 3: **Map of SAVILLE STREET** (circa: **1888**).[2]

An example of a local postal history marking is shown below:

Figure 4: TYNEMOUTH (**Red** ink) one straight line uppercase script mark hand stamped on letters.

POST OFFICE DESCRIPTION:

The **North Shields Post Office** was opened on the 3rd February 1890, and it still stands today. It is currently being used for office accommodation. The photograph opposite (**Figure 5**) shows an archival photograph of the building.

The detailed photograph below (**Figure 6**) shows the wording on the post office façade (**POST OFFICE VR**):

Figure 6: Building façade.

Figure 5: Archival photo.

The contemporary photograph below (**Figure 7**) shows the building as it stands today. The wording on the façade has been removed, and it is not known when that was done.

Figure 7: Contemporary photo. (Credited to @TyneSnapper 2020)

LOCAL HISTORY:

North Shields has its roots in the founding of Tynemouth Priory in the 7th century A.D.

North Shields is first recorded in 1225, when the Prior of Tynemouth, Germanus, decided to create a fishing port to provide fish for the Priory which was situated on the headland at the mouth of the River Tyne.

The name of **North Shields** derives from Middle English ***schele***, which means "temporary sheds or huts used by fishermen".

NOTE: The façade for the North Shields Post Office contains the Royal Cypher for Queen Victoria (**VR**): representing **VICTORIA REGINA**.

Figure 8: "**VR"** detail on façade.

Versions of the Royal Cypher are also used on Royal Mail post boxes.[3] Today, the **EIIR** cypher stands for **Elizabeth II Regina**. The **R** was added to a monarch's cypher from the reign of Henry VIII, and stands for either **Rex** or **Regina**, which is Latin for **King** or **Queen** respectively.

CYPHER

CONCLUSION:

As the postal system expanded in the Victorian era, there was an ever increasing demand for post office infrastructure, which required an expanding Office of Works. Sir Henry Tanner was a leading light in that movement.

REFERENCES:

1. British Post Office Buildings and Their Architects: an Illustrated Guide: http://britishpostofficearchitects.weebly.com/
2. Ordnance Survey Map (1888-1913) online resource: https://www.archiuk.com/
3. PILLAR BOXES (CHATTO CURIOSITIES of the British Street); Jonathan Glancey, Chatto & Windus, London UK, 1989.

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USING THE STAMP AUCTION TAG

I've included a sheet with 4 Stamp Auction tags on it and will be bringing more copies to our in person meetings if you don't have a way to print them out. Following is a description from Doug Peavy who designed the form:

Country: Although filling in "country" is usually obvious, if your item was issued by a state, district or municipality make sure to list it.

Year: Fill in the year of issue if you know it. This might assist members in making a decision to bid

Description: Give the bidders as much information as possible about your item, including condition (mint or used, hinged or never hinged) plus any important design features and any other factors you feel the bidders should know.

Catalog #: Indicate the catalog number and which catalog you reference.

CV (Catalog value). Indicate the catalog value and the year of the catalog you used.

Starting Bid: The minimum bid you are willing to accept.

Although not all of these are required, the more information the more likely you will get bids in the auction.

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All prior newsletters of the club are available on our club web-site. To access the Atlanta Stamp Collectors Club's website page (per the below image):

1. Enter sefsc.org in your browser.
2. From the main top-of-page menu, hover over Stamp Clubs.
3. Hover over Georgia.
4. Click Atlanta Stamp Collectors Club.

Member Dealers?

Are there any members who are using web-sites to sell stamps? We would like to include information in the newsletter about your site or link.

If you are interested in writing for our newsletter or presenting to our club at one of our monthly meetings, please contact me at the email below or Scott Holmberg at sdholmberg1@gmail.com with your ideas.

LeA Coe, Secretary leacoe@bellsouth.net